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Economic and Social Council

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Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Seventieth session
Agenda items 3(a) and (b)

Resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

70/4. Promoting sustainable agricultural development in Asia and the Pacific through technology transfer

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 62/190 and 64/197 on agricultural technology for development, and 63/235 on agriculture development and food security,

Also recalling the World Summit on Food Security convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome from 16 to 18 November 2009, and stressing the vital role of international cooperation in advancing and implementing agricultural technologies,

Considering the pressing need to innovate in agriculture and food production in order to address the challenges posed by, inter alia, population growth, urbanization, depletion and scarcity of natural resources, land degradation and desertification, and climate change, and recognizing that sustainable agricultural technologies can greatly contribute to improving food security and rural livelihoods for the current and future generations, achieving conservation and sustainable use of natural resources and helping to adapt agriculture to, and mitigate the negative impact of, climate change,

Recognizing that adaptable, accessible and sustainable agricultural technologies can play an important role in helping member States to alleviate poverty and eradicate hunger, and that there is a need to intensify the efforts of the international community in its attempt to achieve internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Acknowledging the effective and practical approaches taken by some member States to address the issues of agricultural productivity and sustainability through the adoption of appropriate technologies, including agricultural mechanization, and their achievements in meeting most of the Millennium Development Goals,

Welcoming the support provided by the secretariat of the Commission and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs in

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facilitating technology transfer in sustainable agricultural development through their relevant divisions, subregional offices and regional institutions,

1. *Calls upon* members and associate members:

(a) To make greater efforts to introduce, adapt, develop and disseminate appropriate and cost-effective sustainable agricultural technologies to enable poor rural women, men and youth to increase sustainable agricultural productivity and improve rural livelihoods;

(b) To include sustainable agricultural development as an integral part of their national policies and strategies and to formulate and implement national sustainable agricultural development strategies and/or plans, as appropriate;

2. *Encourages* member States, civil society and public and private institutions to develop partnerships to promote the accessibility of sustainable agricultural technologies to farmers;

3. *Invites* member States to ensure that issues pertinent to sustainable agricultural and rural development are given appropriate consideration in the elaboration of the development agenda beyond 2015;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, international financial institutions, development banks and donor countries:

(a) To continue to support knowledge- and information-sharing and capacity development for member States to pursue sustainable agricultural development;

(b) To continue to assist members and associate members in undertaking North-South cooperation, South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation to facilitate and expedite technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and the uptake of socially, economically and environmentally sustainable technologies;

(c) To continue to support and facilitate, for example through the substantive divisions, subregional offices and regional institutions of ESCAP, regional cooperation in the innovation, development and application of sustainable agricultural technologies, including technologies for agricultural mechanization, and the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources in order to achieve intensification of sustainable food and agricultural production and to reduce rural poverty;

(d) To continue to encourage public-private partnerships and devise creative approaches, such as the organization of dialogue and advocacy activities together or in conjunction with exhibitions and fairs, for the promotion of knowledge- and information-sharing, policy dialogue, joint and collaborative research and development, technology transfer on mutually agreed upon terms, as well as business development;

5. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Seventh plenary meeting
8 August 2014

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